

Message

From: Holst, Linda [holst.linda@epa.gov]
Sent: 12/17/2018 5:15:00 PM
To: Swenson, Peter [swenson.peter@epa.gov]; Baltazar, Debbie [baltazar.debbie@epa.gov]; Pierard, Kevin [pierard.kevin@epa.gov]; Nelson, Leverett [nelson.leverett@epa.gov]; Wester, Barbara [wester.barbara@epa.gov]; Westlake, Kenneth [westlake.kenneth@epa.gov]; Ireland, Scott [ireland.scott@epa.gov]; Marko, Katharine [Marko.Katharine@epa.gov]; Walts, Alan [walts.alan@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Downstream analysis

I contacted Shannon last week to ask her about the status of the 401 cert for Polymet/Northmet and that we were going to be doing an informational briefing for the RA soon and did MN want us to convey anything in the briefing about MN's perspective on potential downstream impacts. She said she needed to check-in with a few people and would get back to me by Monday. Below is her message.

Linda

From: Lotthammer, Shannon (MPCA) <shannon.lotthammer@state.mn.us>
Sent: Monday, December 17, 2018 10:59 AM
To: Holst, Linda <holst.linda@epa.gov>
Subject: Downstream analysis

Hi Linda –

Just left you a voicemail about this. Below is a summary of our analysis of the potential for the project to result in water quality changes in downstream waters. This includes the cross-media analysis that was mentioned to you. Please use all or part of this as you see fit in your briefing. If you have any questions, feel free to call me on my cell phone: 651/276-3404.

Many thanks!
Shannon

MPCA has determined that the Project as designed does not have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to any violations of any applicable water quality standards in waters of the state. These standards include numeric and narrative water quality criteria, antidegradation standards for surface water, nondegradation standards for groundwater, and beneficial use designations. The permit includes extensive requirements to ensure that the Project will comply with all applicable water quality standards. The MPCA does not expect the Project to contribute to any downstream impairments. The Project will not result in any measurable changes to water quality downstream of the Project in the St. Louis River, including downstream locations at Forbes (upper St. Louis River). In particular, the MPCA expects no measurable change in mercury concentrations downstream in the St. Louis River at Forbes or below.

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